

LBAO
FIS 09:113
07/15/09

Fiscal Impact Statement for Department of Environmental Services rules governing Amendments relative to Stream Crossings. [Env-Wt 303.02 intro & new (p); Env-Wt 303.03 intro, new (n) & (o); Env-Wt 303.04 intro, (g)-(j), (n), (x)-(z), (ae) & new (ag); Env-Wt 303.05 intro, (a) intro & (f); Env-Wt 304.07; Env-Wt 501.02 new (e); Env-Wt 506.01 (a)(8) & new (c); Env-Wt 506.04 (c); Env-Wt 801.01; Env-Wt 801.03; Env-Wt 803.01 (a) intro, new (b), & (c) intro; Env-Wt 803.03; Env-Wt 803.05; Env-Wt 804.02]

1. Comparison of the costs of the proposed rule(s) to the existing rule(s):

When compared to the existing rules, the proposed rules may have an indeterminable impact on costs to political subdivisions and independently owned businesses to the extent they install or replace a stream crossing.

2. Cite the Federal mandate. Identify the impact on state funds:

No federal mandate, no impact on state funds. The proposed rules will align New Hampshire requirements with federal requirements under the State Programmatic General Permit issued by the US Army Corps that require construction projects provide for aquatic organism passage. The aligning of New Hampshire requirements to the federal requirements may result in a decrease in costs as applicants will not have to meet two separate sets of standards.

3. Cost and benefits of the proposed rule(s):

A. To State general or State special funds:

None.

B. To State citizens and political subdivisions:

To the extent a political subdivision installs or replaces a stream crossing and does not already design for the passage of aquatic organisms and anticipated flows, especially during storm events, they may have increased costs. The alignment of NH requirements with the federal requirements may result in a decrease in costs as applicants will not have to meet two separate sets of standards. There is no impact on state citizens.

C. To independently owned businesses:

To the extent an independently owned business installs or replaces a stream crossing and does not already design for the passage of aquatic organisms and anticipated flows, especially during storm events, they may have increased costs. The alignment of NH requirements with the federal requirements may result in a decrease in costs as applicants will not have to meet two separate sets of standards.